

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-14 are currently pending. The specification and claims have been amended in order to conform with proper idiomatic English and to place the application in conformance with U.S. practice. Support for the amendments to claims 1-8 and new claims 9-14 may be found, *inter alia*, in original claims 1-8 and in the specification on page 5, lines 13-22; page 7, lines 14-25; page 10, lines 2-6; and page 10, lines 10-12. None of the amendments present an issue of new matter.

A Request For Approval to Make Drawing Changes is filed herewith, in which English text has been added to the Figures.

Applicant submits claims 1-14 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,

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Certificate of Mail

I hereby certify that this document and any document referenced herein is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 04/17/2006.

Marjorie Scariati

(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

(Signature)